



MAYFAIRKIDS

JESUS IS THE SON OF GOD



"WHO IS JESUS?" FAMILY DEVOTIONAL GUIDE - Week 23, January 14

JESUS IS THE SON OF GOD

And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son,
whom I love; with him I am well pleased."

MATTHEW 3:17

Have you ever wondered what Jesus was like as a little boy? The Bible doesn't tell us a lot about his growing-up years, other than that he "grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man" (Luke 2:52). In other words, he matured like other boys, and he was obedient. But unlike other boys, he was completely sinless, perfectly pleasing both his earthly parents and his heavenly Father.

Jesus's cousin John was the one God chose to prepare the way for Jesus. John was a unique character, living

in the desert, wearing camel skins, and eating locusts and wild honey. He began preaching near the Jordan River, telling the people they must turn away from their sins and turn back to God. Many people listened, and John baptized them.

As John's popularity spread, people began to wonder and ask who he was. Was he the Messiah, the one they were waiting for?

"No!" answered John. He was just the one preparing the way. He was trying to help them see their sin and their

need for a Savior. “Someone else is coming after me,” he said. “I’m not even special enough to untie his shoes.”

One day Jesus came down to the Jordan River. He wanted to be baptized by John. But John tried to stop him. “I need to be baptized by you, and you’re coming to me?”

But Jesus said this was the right thing to do, so John agreed. John baptized Jesus, and as soon as Jesus rose up out of the water, the heavens opened. The Spirit of God came down like a dove and rested on him. A voice from heaven said, “This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased” (Matthew 3:17).

Now John knew without a doubt that his cousin Jesus was the Son of God.

After this, the Spirit of God led Jesus to the desert for forty days and forty nights. Someone came who knew exactly who Jesus was, and he wasn’t happy about it. It was the devil. The devil knew if he could get Jesus to sin, then God’s whole plan would be ruined. He had gotten Adam and Eve to sin all those many years ago, and now was his chance to tempt the very Son of God.

Jesus hadn’t eaten for a long time, and he was very hungry, so the devil said, “If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread” (Matthew 4:3).

Jesus wasn’t going to listen to him. Instead, he quoted a verse from Deuteronomy. “It is written: ‘Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God’” (Matthew 4:4).

So the devil tried again. He took Jesus to the highest point of the temple and said, “Throw yourself down. The Scriptures say the angels will catch you.”

Jesus answered him, “The Scriptures also say, ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test’” (Matthew 4:7 paraphrase).

The devil tried once more. He took Jesus to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms and riches of the world. “This can all be yours,” he said, “if you bow down and worship me.”

But the devil was not going to win. He could not make Jesus sin. “Away from me, Satan! For it is written: ‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only’” (4:10).

So the devil left, and God sent angels to care for his Son Jesus and strengthen him. It was time for Jesus to start his ministry. He had God’s fullest approval and blessing, he was anointed and empowered with the Holy Spirit, and the devil wasn’t going to stop him. He was God’s Son.



REFLECT

1. Name the three persons of the Trinity and describe how we see them in the story of Jesus’s baptism.
2. Read Isaiah 42:1. How does this story fulfill Isaiah’s prophecy?
3. Why is it so important that Jesus was sinless? See 2 Corinthians 5:21 and Hebrews 4:15.
4. In Luke’s gospel, he inserts a genealogy of Jesus between his baptism and temptation. Read Luke 3:38. What is Adam called? How are Jesus and Adam different? See also 1 Corinthians 15:45–49.

BIBLE REFERENCE ISAIAH 42:1; MATTHEW 3:13–4:11

KEY VERSE MATTHEW 3:17